

# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner*  
*Jeff Regnart, Director*



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Contact:  
Eric Newland, Area Management Biologist  
Breena Apgar-Kurtz, Asst. Area Manager  
Phone: (907) 949-1320  
Fax: (907) 949-1830

Lower Yukon Area Office  
P.O. Box 127  
Emmonak, AK 99581  
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#### **2013 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release # 14**

#### **Summer Announcement #12, District 2 Commercial Beach Seine and Dip Net Period #1**

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

Under new commercial fishing regulations adopted by the Alaska Board of Fisheries in 2013, the department may by emergency order allow the use of dip nets and beach seines. These new gear options are intended to allow for additional summer chum directed commercial fishing opportunity while allowing for the release of incidentally caught Chinook salmon.

Dip nets and beach seines may be employed to allow for the commercial harvest of summer chum even during times when subsistence fishing closures have been enacted to protect Chinook salmon.

Based on the 2013 preseason outlook for summer chum salmon, this announcement opens one commercial salmon fishing period in District 2 that will be concurrent with the open subsistence salmon fishing period.

**District 2 Commercial Beach Seine and Dip Net:** Commercial salmon fishing in District 2 will be open 6:00 p.m. Thursday, June 20, until 3:00 a.m. Friday, June 21, with beach seine and dip net gear only. This will be a 9-hour commercial fishing period. Beach seine mesh size is restricted to 4-inch or smaller mesh size. Dip net mesh size is restricted 4.5-inch or smaller mesh. A commercial permit holder may operate up to four dip nets.

Fishermen using dip nets or beach seine gear are required to immediately release incidentally caught Chinook salmon back to the water alive. Chinook salmon caught and released must be recorded on a fish ticket. In the event that a Chinook salmon is killed by these gear types, the dead Chinook salmon must be recorded on a fish ticket and forfeited to the state.

Commercial fishermen interested in using these new gear types are encouraged to contact the processor for more information regarding gear availability and to confirm their market prior to commercial fishing.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Emmonak ADF&G office at 949-1320. The Emmonak ADF&G office will stand by on VHF channel 7A.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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